03-07-05

ARNES & THORNBURG LLP

ENT APPLICATION IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

P.O. Box 2786 Chicago, Illinois 60690 (312) 357-1313 (312) 759-5646 Fax

Group Art

Unit:

3634

Application No.: 10/656,049

Filing Date:

September 5, 2003

First Named

Inventor:

Michael F. Nickipuck

Title:

STORAGE RAIL CONNECTORS FOR RATCHET

WRENCH SOCKETS

Attorney

Docket No.:

923060-96503

Examiner:

Novosad

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA

22313-1450

on March 3, 2005

Maria Open (Maria Opon)

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of February 4, 2005, Applicant responds as follows:

The Office Action concerns a restriction requirement identifying two inventions, I: Claims 1-21 and II. Claims 22-27. Claims 1-21 cover the complete socket storage device, including the rail. Claims 22-27 comprise a subcombination, the storage device, not including the rail.

Attorney Docket: 923060/96503

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirements because Invention II is a subcombination of Invention I.

In the event the Examiner maintains the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Claims 1-21, without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

David C. Brezina

One of the Attorneys for Applicant

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Date: March 4, 2005

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